

April 15, 2025

To: Xiang Binghe, Pierre Noyer

PT Weda Bay Nickel

Sopo Del Office Tower A, Lt. 21, Jl. Mega Kuningan Barat III Lot. 10.1-6, Kota Adm.

Jakarta Selatan, Provinsi DKI Jakarta, Kode Pos: 12950

Indonesia

SENT VIA MAIL

Subject: Summary of findings and request for response: report on environmental and human rights impacts of the nickel industry in Halmahera, Indonesia

Dear Mr. Xiang Binghe and Mr. Pierre Noyer,

I am writing on behalf of Climate Rights International, an international NGO that conducts research and advocacy on the human rights dimensions of the climate crisis. We will soon publish a report on the continuing human rights, environmental, and climate harms associated with nickel mining and smelting at and near the Indonesia Weda Bay Industrial Park (IWIP). This report follows our "[Nickel Unearthed](#)" report, which we published in January 2024 and previously contacted you about.

Our forthcoming report, which is based on interviews with local community members and company, media, and NGO reports, finds that community members living near IWIP continue to face serious human rights and environmental harms due to industrial mining and mineral processing operations. As mining and mineral processing activities continue to expand, those impacts are worsening. There is also no evidence that those whose lands have been taken by the nickel industry have been fully compensated, or that there has been accountability for the human rights and environmental harms community members have suffered.

We want to ensure that our report accurately reflects the views, policies, and practices of relevant authorities and companies, and we hope that you or your representatives will respond to the following questions, outlined below. Any responses will be reflected in our reporting as appropriate, and we may publish your responses at our discretion and when appropriate, either in full or in part.

1. What steps has PT Weda Bay Nickel taken to address the human rights and environmental impacts related to its mining and smelting operations in Halmahera since January 2024?
2. What steps has PT Weda Bay Nickel taken to ensure that community members have received full compensation for their lands, including Indigenous communities' customary lands, from Weda Bay Nickel?

3. Has PT Weda Bay Nickel investigated the impacts of its operations on recent flooding events in Central Halmahera, including in villages near the boundary of IWIP? If so, what were the results of that investigation?
4. The PT Weda Bay Nickel website reports, “Several times a year, the quality of well water in the villages closest to the industrial activities is checked by an independent sworn laboratory. Its agents come from Bogor to take water samples, which are immediately analyzed in the presence of village representatives. The results are communicated to the authorities to verify that the entire sampling and analysis process is carried out within the regulatory framework and environmental authorizations, and that the water quality meets current standards.”
 - a. Please provide documentation of the water quality testing program, the location sites for sampling, and any other results of the monitoring program.
 - b. Does Weda Bay Nickel have any plans to make this data publicly available and accessible to local communities? If not, why not?
 - c. What steps does Weda Bay Nickel takes if it finds the results do not meet government standards?
 - d. Does Weda Bay Nickel undertake testing of the water in streams and rivers downstream of its concession? If so, please provide details of that testing program, including location sites for sampling and results of the testing. If not, why not?
5. The Eramet website states that, “To date, there is no evidence that members of the O’Hongana Manyawa community are living in voluntary isolation in or around the Weda Bay concession. If the presence of groups living in voluntary isolation is demonstrated, Eramet will ask PT Weda Bay Nickel to refrain to any contact and not to engage in an FPIC process with them, in line with international standards.” The website further states, “The Indonesian government does not recognize the O’Hongana Manyawa community as an “indigenous group”. Nevertheless, since 2012, PT Weda Bay Nickel decided to set up an active engagement program with this community located within the concession perimeter, and in accordance with Indonesian law, Weda Bay Nickel’s mining activities are subject to in-depth consultation with local communities, including this community. Since 2012, the company has maintained mutually accepted exchanges with the community groups present in the vicinity of our mining activities.”
 - a. Please explain what the “in-depth consultation” with the community entails and when it began.
 - b. What evidence has Eramet and/or Weda Bay Nickel gathered to support the statement that there are no members of O’Hongana Manyawa living in voluntary isolation in or near the mining concession?

Please provide your responses in writing. Your responses can only be considered for inclusion in the report if we receive them by April 30, 2025. Please reply in English at [REDACTED] copy in [REDACTED] In addition, please include any other materials, statistics, and/or information you think may be relevant.



I would also welcome the opportunity to speak with you or your representatives. Please let me know if you have any questions or if you would like to arrange a meeting or video conference.

Sincerely



Brad Adams
Executive Director, Climate Rights International

